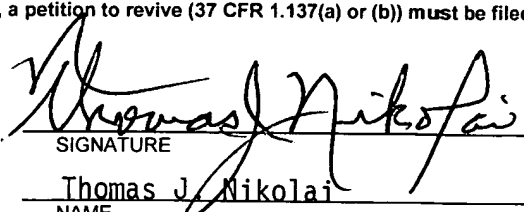


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TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 20020298.ORI U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 107524086
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US2003/025018	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE August 8, 2003	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED August 21, 2002
TITLE OF INVENTION Method and Apparatus for Disposing of Liquid Surgical Waste for Protection of Healthcare Workers		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Nord, Jay D. and Droque, Jeffrey K.		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).		
Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:		
11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment. 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821- 1.825. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 20. <input type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/524086		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US2003/25018		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 20020298.0RI	
21. The following fees are submitted:				Applicant use	Office use only
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a) Basic national fee..... \$300.00				\$ 300.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b) Examination fee..... \$200.00				\$ 200.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c) Search fee..... \$500.00				\$ 500.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$1000.00				\$ 1000.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets	Extra sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE		
- 100 =	/50 =		x \$250.00	\$ 0	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$	
Total claims	- 20 =		x \$50.00	\$	
Independent claims	- 3 =		x \$200.00	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$360.00	\$ 360.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 1360.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.				\$ 680.00	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 680.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				\$ 40.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 720.00	
Amount to be refunded:					\$
Amount to be charged					\$
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>720.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>08-1265</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: NIKOLAI & MERSEREAU, P.A. 900 Second Avenue South Suite 820 Minneapolis, MN 55402					
				SIGNATURE  Thomas J. Nikolai NAME	
				19,283 REGISTRATION NUMBER	

PATENT APPLICATION
STUTTS PAT/PTC 09 FEB 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re App : Jay D. Nord, et al. : Docket No. 20020298.ORI
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DISPOSING OF LIQUID SURGICAL
WASTE FOR PROTECTION OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING VIA EXPRESS MAIL

MAIL STOP PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

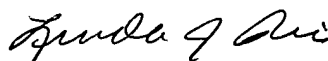
I hereby certify that the following:

1. Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371;
2. A copy of the published patent applications;
3. A Preliminary Amendment;
4. An executed Combined Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition;
5. A Patent Application Data Entry Format;
6. An executed Assignment;
7. Recordation Form Cover Sheet;
8. A check in the amount of \$720;
9. Return Postcard

all in connection with the above-identified patent application are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on February 9, 2005, and is addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, under Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Label No. EV612986255US.

Respectfully submitted,

NIKOLAI & MERSEREAU, P.A.



Linda J. Rice
On behalf of Thomas J. Nikolai
Attorneys for Applicants
900 Second Avenue South, #820
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Telephone: (612) 339-7461